

I. Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present invention relates to a laser-welded driveshaft and a method of making the driveshaft.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraphs:

[0004] ~~Thus, an object of the present invention is to provide an improved method of welding a joint of a driveshaft resulting in less heat input and less time consumed per cycle.~~

[0005] ~~Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved method of welding a driveshaft wherein noise, vibration, and harshness (NVH), distortion, runout, and imbalance are reduced using a given power and speed.~~

[0006] The present invention generally provides a laser-welded driveshaft and a method of laser welding the driveshaft of a vehicle. The laser-welded driveshaft of the present invention is made by a laser-welding method which lessens NVH, distortion, runout, and imbalance, with a given laser power and laser travel speed. ~~The present invention provides a more efficient method of welding a driveshaft which is more rigid than current driveshafts made by other methods at given laser power and laser travel speed. The method involves using a neodymium:yttrium aluminum garnate (Nd:YAG) laser.~~